

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 70-74 have been re-designated as withdrawn. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended.

Claims 1-56 (Canceled).

Claim 57 (Previously presented) A variant of a parent subtilase comprising a substitution at position 9 with Arg and a substitution at position 62 with Asp, wherein the variant has protease activity and each position corresponds to a position of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 58 (Previously presented) The variant of claim 57, further comprising a substitution at position 68.

Claim 59 (Previously presented) The variant of claim 58, wherein the substitution at position 68 is V68A.

Claim 60 (Previously presented) The variant of claim 57, further comprising one or more of the modifications K27R, *36D, S56P, V68A, N76D, S87N, G97N, S99SE, S101G, S103A, V104A, V104I, V104N, V104Y, S106A, H120D, H120N, N123S, G159D, Y167A, R170L, R170S, A194P, N204D, V205I, Q206E, L217D, N218S, N218D, M222S, M222A, T224S, A232V, K235L, Q236H, Q245R, N248D, N252K, T274A, S3T+V4I+S99D+S101R+S103A+V104I+G160S+A194P+V199M+V205I+L217D, S3T+V4I+S99D+S101R+S103A+V104I+G160S+V199M+V205I+L217D, S3T+V4I+S99D+S101R+S103A+V104I+G160S+V205I, K27R+V104Y+N123S+T274A, N76D+S103A+V104I, N76D+V104A, S87N+S101G+V104N, S99D+S101R+S103A+V104I+G160S, and S101G+V104N.

Claim 61 (Previously presented) The variant of claim 57, further comprising the following substitutions:
S101G+S103A+V104I+G159D+A232V+Q236H+Q245R+N248D+N252K.

Claim 62 (Previously presented) The variant of claim 57, comprising a set of substitutions selected from the group consisting of:

S9R+A13V+A15T+I35V+N62D+Q245F;
S9R+A15T+G20*+L21F+P52T+N62D+Q245R;
S9R+A15T+G20*+L21F+N62D+Q245N;
S9R+A15T+G20*+L21F+N62D+Q245R; and
S9R+A15T+G20*+L21F+N62D+Q245R+S259G.

Claim 63 (Previously presented) The variant of claim 57, comprising a set of substitutions selected from the group consisting of:

S9R+A15T+T22A+N62D;
S9R+A15T+T22TG+N62D+V139L+Q245G;
S9R+A15T+T22TG+N62D+V139L+Q245S;
S9R+A15T+T22TG+N62D+V139L+Q245V;
S9R+A15T+T22TL+N62D+I107V+V139L+Q245W; and
S9R+A15T+T22TL+N62D+Q245W.

Claim 64 (Previously presented) The variant of claim 57, comprising a set of substitutions selected from the group consisting of:

S9R+A15T+N62D+H120N+P131T;
S9R+A15T+N62D+Q245R+N252M;
S9R+A15T+N62D+Q245W+N252S; and
S9R+A15T+N62D+Q245W+N252V.

Claim 65 (Previously presented) The variant of claim 57, wherein the parent subtilase belongs to the sub-group I-S1.

Claim 66 (Previously presented) The variant of claim 57, wherein the parent subtilase belongs to the sub-group I-S2.

Claim 67 (Previously presented) The variant of claim 57, wherein the parent subtilase is subtilisin 309.

Claim 68 (Previously presented) A cleaning or detergent composition, comprising a variant of claim 57 and a surfactant.

Claim 69 (Previously presented) A composition of claim 68, which additionally comprises one or more of an amylase, cellulase, cutinase, esterase, beta-galactosidase, glycoamylase, hemicellulase, lactase, ligninase, lipase, polygalacturonase, and protease.

Claim 70 (Withdrawn) An isolated DNA sequence encoding a variant of claim 57.

Claim 71 (Withdrawn) An expression vector comprising the isolated DNA sequence of claim 70.

Claim 72 (Withdrawn) A microbial host cell transformed with the expression vector of claim 71.

Claim 73 (Withdrawn) A microbial host cell of claim 72, which is a *Bacillus*.

Claim 74 (Withdrawn) A method for producing a variant, comprising

 (a) culturing a host of claim 72 under conditions conducive to the expression and secretion of the variant, and

 (b) recovering the protease variant.